IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Michaluk)	Examiner:	Lois L. Zheng
Application Number:	10/042,549))	Group Art Unit:	1742
Filed:	January 9, 2002))	Confirmation No.:	5470
Docket No.: CPM000	029CIP (3600-328-01)))		

TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME For:

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 5, 2007

Sir

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 3, 2007, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making the response due on or before November 5, 2007 (since November 3, 2007 and November 4, 2007 were a Saturday and Sunday, respectively).

Amendments to the Claims begin at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin at page 15 of this paper.